

NEPTUNE IN PISCES: Surrendering to the Vast Innerworld

By Rafael Nasser

Slow waltz across the sky

When a slow moving planet like Neptune slinks over the sign in the heavens playing its favorite tune, the world is ready to learn a new dance. Just a few years ago we witnessed Uranus jiggle through Aquarius (1995-2003) and the internet materialized. Just prior we witnessed the tango of Pluto through Scorpio (1983-1995). Closet doors opened and taboos and bogeymen burst into the mainstream. Anyone remember when “condom” was a blush-inducing, whispered word? Or “priest” was not a word loaded with connotations of impropriety? And now Neptune is set to dance a slow, fifteen year waltz through the watery sign of Pisces (2011-2026). *What could this mean?*

Here is the three-step strategy we will follow to explore this question.

Step 1: Survey the historical circumstances that led to the emergence of Neptune. This exercise will help us internalize the “essence” of Neptune deeply and poignantly.

Step 2: Grasp Pisces, the slippery fishes, by the tail.

Step 3: Toss these two symbols into the mixer, press “blend”, and see what emerges when we sip the smoldering brew.

How Neptune was born

To understand *why* “Neptunian” consciousness was conceived we must first reach back to the 17th century, the era when “Uranian” consciousness was budding like a springtime flower. In those heady days collective consciousness was dazzled by the upbeat promise of progress, liberty, and freedom, ideals destined to lead humanity towards a new Golden Age. This was a positive, life affirming vision that lifted spirits on the wings of endless possibility. Historians refer to this “Uranian” zeitgeist as the *Enlightenment*.

The movement was cultivated intellectually in the Paris salons of the 18th century and technologically in the fledgling cottage industries that became the foundations of industry. The Enlightenment spawned two revolutions on the continent. Both held great promise at first, but ended up casting a gloomy shadow over Europe.

The *French Revolution* was a gory affair driven by vindictive bloodlust that fell far short of the noble, liberal ideals that had set it in motion. And the soot, smoke, and the miserable life conditions ushered by the *Industrial Revolution* in Britain blighted the land, fractured the family, and heralded an unparalleled epidemic of anomie. The exuberant, forward-looking philosophy of the Enlightenment rang hollow on the bloodied streets of France and the across the coal stained faces of the British factory workers.

The Enlightenment had failed to deliver on its promise to create a better world and to improve life conditions for the average person. A darkness rose in the hearts and the minds of the people.

Neptunian “consciousness” emerged against this backdrop. The Romantic poets in the early 19th century identified a new “world” where meaning and hope could be found anew: *the human imagination*. They proclaimed that this vast *innerworld* could be cultivated and illuminated through art. A poem, song, or painting could ferry a soul from despair to imagined realms of transcendent beauty and numinous delight. Sweetest of all, the redemptive promise of romantic love rekindled the hearts of millions.

The human imagination extraverted and for the first time in the history of our species we began to freely share our innermost thoughts and experiences via a new artistic medium, the novel, which vested the imagination with visions of “novel” possibilities and “novel” social ideals. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* was a Neptunian Manifesto against the ravages of Uranian technological imbalance. Numerous works portraying social injustice spawned reform movements.

Photography, and later film, fertilized the collective imagination seeding the imagination with exotic visions, awakening cross-cultural sensibilities, and spawning multiculturalism. Travel adventures to foreign lands and excursions into enchanting nature became an adjunct to Neptunian forays into the boundless imagination.

Interest developed in esoteric spiritual teachings originating from the Far East. These were Neptunian commodities that were imported and sought after in the way that spices, Uranian commodities, were coveted in the previous century. And psychology emerged as a modality devised explore vast, uncharted innerworlds the way Magellan and Columbus had previously explored the outer one.

And thus, a new consciousness emerged in the collective. Over time it coalesced into a coherent zeitgeist which was pegged by astrologers to the planet Neptune, discovered in 1846.

The various artistic, social, and philosophical movements that fall under the “rulership” of Neptune share this common ground: *They each represent an experience designed to expand, deepen, and enrich the landscape of our innerlife as a way of assuaging anomie, alienation, and the bleak desperation of living in a mechanical, disenchanting, meaningless reality.*

Astrologically, this process is symbolized by the planet Neptune.

Slippery Pisces

Pisces is reputed to be the most mysterious and ineffable of the twelve signs of the Zodiac. To grasp the fishes by the tail, relax and melt into this vision...

A bone-tired man shrouded in fog is lost somewhere on the upward sloping face of a rugged mountain. He had been walking through the blinding mist carrying a satchel of gold for a long time. The bag has grown unbearably heavy and he is looking for a place to rest.

Too tired to continue, he stops in the stillness of the rolling fog, sets down the satchel and empties it. There is no gold! All this time he was carrying a bunch of rocks!

Disenchanted, he slumps to the ground. Exhausted, he surrenders to sleep and in the breathable boundary between time and eternity he is granted a vision of where the gold lies hidden.

He awakens full of vigor and faith. The sky is now completely clear and as he looks around he realizes that he is standing at the summit where Earth and Heaven touch. Eager to fulfill the promise of the vision he treks back down the mountain in silent ecstasy, failing to notice that as he leaves mountaintop a dim, almost imperceptible mist has already begun to form around him.

Pisces is often associated with confusion, but more accurately, Pisces *brings awareness to aspects of our lives that are already shrouded in fog.* The gift of Pisces is a liberating vision that we are granted when we consciously *surrender* old habits that no longer serve us — when we empty our satchel filled with false gold. As we empty our minds and hearts of our burdens something miraculous happens: *space for something new to manifest is created.* That vision that emerges in that new space is the promise of Pisces.

A concrete example: A relationship has become increasingly heavy and burdensome over the years. The couple is carrying a heavy satchel. They are imprisoned behind a wall of old habits and conventions that no longer serve them. *But they don't realize it...*

The relationship is triggered by a Pisces transit. Suddenly, the pain becomes palpable, unbearable. Disillusioned, one partner escapes by drinking himself into numb oblivion.

The other partner chooses a different route. She goes on a vision quest and at sunset one day her “fog” lifts. Gazing up at the silent sky in a moment of stillness she spots a buzzard circling overhead and instantly she understands that the relationship is dead. The Piscean vision has been granted. Feeling liberated, she returns home, knowing the time has come for her to move on.

You are grasping the fishes by the tail when you realize that the state of confusion associated with Pisces morphs into clarity the moment we are prepared to let go and let God. If you read the fish lips carefully they are saying: *liberation to those who surrender.*

Neptune in Pisces

Today is April 1, 2026. Today Neptune leaves Pisces and enters the next sign, Aries. I've been asked to say a few words about the meaning of this transit. Let's begin with a toast to cheer the end of a remarkable era. So much has happened since April 5th, 2011 when Neptune first entered Pisces...

Some of the older folks here may remember life before the internet. Many of you do not. You grew up with it and you can't imagine life without it. The transit of Neptune through Pisces has added another layer to collective consciousness that we have internalized and now take for granted: our innerworld. A realm that we now seek to cultivate and share freely, as never before.

Before the transit most people ignored their, private inner lives. Few people accepted responsibility for the quality of their private thoughts and feelings. Mostly, we practiced "unprotected" consciousness the way our grandparents practiced unprotected sex. But now we better. Consciousness is a real force of nature. The imagination is not a figment. The innerworld is as real the outer one. We can no longer ignore its impact on humanity.

Incredibly, science measured the nonlocal effects of consciousness and decreed that consciousness is a force of nature, like gravity or magnetism. The noted Princeton study that turned the world on its head proved that directing negative thoughts repeatedly at another person caused them harm, and that positive thoughts had therapeutic value.

Who could have imagined that the Supreme Court would rule that we are responsible for the consequences of our private thoughts and feelings. They referred to ill will as a "noetic crime." Now that we are responsible for the contents of our private lives no one is safe from their own shadow. We have to clean up after our minds the way we clean up after our dogs.

Sadly, a lot of people still ignore the deeper reaches of their innerworld. Until recently I was one of those people, and so I decided to join a local Mindbody Gym. I improved my concentration by 120% while simultaneously lowering my brain waves by 30% while I was on the treadmill with my heart rate up 50%. My trainer assures me that soon I will be able to induce alpha state at will. And you know that's something that employers are now testing for when they hire.

My innerlife has grown in surprising ways. I lucid dream occasionally and get to explore aspects of my innerworld while I'm asleep that I used to avoid while I was awake.

For me, innerlife growth has been a positive experience and so I'm glad to hear that meditation and visualization are now mandatory parts of the school curriculum and that the college entrance exams will soon begin test for noetic aptitude and innerworld intelligence, as well as math and English. And who would have guessed before Neptune entered Pisces that spiritual institutions would sprout like mushrooms? Nowadays it's common knowledge that spiritual practice is the most effective way to repattern the brain and grow our innerworld, and who doesn't want that?

Isn't it wonderful that the arts are flourishing as never before? Isn't it wonderful that artists and performers are no longer part of a struggling class but are being integrated into the workforce and rewarded for their creativity and talent. If you can sing and type, or dance and sell, you've got it made these days. Anyone who can contribute to the corporate innerworld is well rewarded.

Those are a few touchstones of Neptune in Pisces. Under this transit we have discovered a new dimension of our humanity—the vast innerworld—and we learned to surrender to it.

But not everyone is convinced that's a good thing. There are those who argue that this new vision of life is leading society in a totalitarian direction. Groups are forming to defend people's right to remain unconscious if they choose, and to keep their innerworlds private and off limits. The issue is complex and it is polarizing society. We still don't know what will happen next.

I suspect we'll find out as Neptune moves into Aries.

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